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Vancouver Island's Leading Newspaper Since 1858

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Forecast, mild cloudy, showers
(Details on page 2)

No. 35—101st YEAR | VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1959 | ***** | 10 CENTS DAILY 14 CENTS SUNDAY | 26 PAGES

Record Total of $87,244,382

SALES TAX REVENUE SOARS

Ceremony Goes On, Rain or Not

Standing in the rain during ceremonies opening the legislature yesterday, Lieutenant-Governor Frank Ross, third from right, takes salute from the RCAF guard of honor from Comox RCAF station. Braving rain with lieutenant-governor are, from left, aides Lt.-Cmdr. J. C. Davies, Brig. John Adam, Mrs. Ross, Wing Cmdr. J. D. D. Campbell and RCMP Inspector T. A. Horn.

$2,000,000 Higher Than 1957 Mark

Biggest single revenue producer for the provincial government during the last fiscal year was the five per cent social security sales tax which soared to a new record of $87,244,382, more than $2,000,000 higher than in 1957.

Motor fuel and fuel oil taxes realized $27,475,237.36, property taxes $6,463,390.95, and motor vehicle licences and permits brought in $14,685,519.08, according to Public Accounts released yesterday in the legislature.

$90,000,000 RECORD

On the expenditure side a new $90,000,000 record was set by the building and maintenance of highways, roads, bridges, ferries, docks and wharves.

Although centennial celebrations had hardly gotten under way by the end of the last fiscal year, March 31, 1958, $1,793,160.33 had already been expended on centennial celebrations.

GRANTS-IN-AID

Services and grants-in-aid for hospitals cost the government $38,214,433.63 and operation of mental hospitals another $12,625,947.30.

Parks, beaches and recreation area development cost $2,358,472.84. Police protection cost $1,512,799.32; and law enforcement another $1,449,567.46. Correction of juvenile delinquents cost $2,062,380.92 and of other offenders $6,028,716.95.

AID TO AGED

The provincial government spent $15,047,543.12 on aid to the aged and $8,806,032.49 on social assistance. Child welfare cost $2,295,737.40.

Some $43,000,000, an increase of nearly $4,000,000 over 1957, was paid in grants, aids and services for schools operated by local authorities and another $6,689,278 to universities, colleges and normal schools.

DEBT RETIREMENT

The government spent $30,332,000 on debt retirement and $11,020,303 on grants in aid of local government. Subsidy paid to the Toll Highways and Bridges Authority was $1,457,184, compared to $632,727 in 1957.

Total gross expenditure was $351,302,764.34 and gross revenue was $322,434,348, with money from the current account, revenue surplus account and capital account being used to make up the balance.

$2,000,000 More Spent By Drinkers in B.C.

British Columbians drank $2,000,000 more liquor last year than they did in 1957.

Sale of liquor in B.C. for fiscal year ending March 31, 1958, brought $26,838,507.41 to the province's consolidated revenue fund, public accounts showed yesterday.

It was up nearly $2,000,000 from 1957 when revenue was $25,048,630.26.

Gross liquor sales to the public amounted to $66,832,135.95 and to licensees, $26,257,969.48, for a total of $93,090,105.43.

Portfolio for Bruch?

Shuffle to Split Health Branch

By ALEC MERRIMAN

A reorganization of the provincial department of health and welfare and mental health services was called for in the Speech from the Throne read by Lieutenant-Governor Frank Ross at yesterday's legislature opening.

The move, first predicted in The Daily Colonist Jan. 1, calls for a new department of health services and hospital insurance to combine services now rendered by mental health services under the provincial secretary with the health branch and hospital insurance service now under the health and welfare department.

The welfare branch will now become a separate department.

NEW MINISTER

It can be assumed that this will call for a new cabinet minister, with Eric Martin continuing as health branch and hospital insurance minister and the new minister directing the new welfare department.

Thought to be a possible candidate for the new minister's post is Herbert Bruch (SC, Esquimalt), who is the Social Credit caucus leader, convention chairman and sparkplug of political campaigns for the Socreds.

The throne speech said definitely that a start will be made this year on Victoria's new courthouse. The Colonist said Jan. 1 that the long-awaited $1,500,000 to $2,000,000 courthouse would be started in October as a winter work program, but completion will not be until 1960.

Yesterday's throne speech, which was actually written by Premier Bennett and outlines

Continued on Page 3

CBC Ultimatum:

Back to Work Or Be Fired

MONTREAL (CP) — The publicly-owned CBC Thursday gave roughly 1,200 of its Montreal employees supporting the television producers' strike the choice of returning to work or losing their jobs.

The ultimatum was contained in letters sent to all staff members who have not reported for work since the Montreal producers walked off their jobs Dec. 29 to back demands for recognition of their newly-formed Association des Realisateurs (CCL) as bargaining agent.

Corporation officials told a press conference late Thursday the CBC will start hiring personnel to fill vacancies created by those who do not return to work.

The corporation also said it will refuse to have any further dealings with the producers' association in its efforts to restore normal television broadcasting services in Montreal.

Can't Get Both

OTTAWA (CP) — Prime Minister Diefenbaker Thursday told labor that it "can't have it both ways." Delegates of the Canadian Labor Congress had asked him for increased government social security measures and reduced taxes at the same time.

Lipstick Tax 'Unfair'

OTTAWA (CP)—One of the three women members of the Commons today urged removal of the 10 per cent federal excise tax on lipstick, shaving cream, toothpaste, baby oils and other cosmetics.

"Lipstick is not a luxury," said Margaret Aitken (P.C., York-Humber) in the Commons throne speech debate. "Half the electors of this country agree with me."

She described the tax on cosmetics as "discriminatory," "unfair" and "incongruous." The excise tax had been removed a few years ago from such items as fishing rods, cameras and soft drinks.

LT.-COL. DOMBROWSKI

* * *

Red Defector Hands Over List of Spies

BONN (Reuters) — The deputy chief of East Germany's espionage system who fled to the West said Thursday he has handed over to authorities here a list of Communist espionage agents operating throughout Europe.

Lt.-Col. Siegfried Dombrowski, 42, told a press conference that East Germany employs about 60,000 espionage agents —20 per cent of them active in Western Europe.

Another Baby Kidnapped

NEW YORK (UPI) — A woman volunteering to act as a baby-sitter for a 23-day-old boy kidnapped him after sending the infant's mother on a wild goose chase for an apartment, police reported last night.

It was the big city's second infant kidnapping this month.

Police were seeking Gladys Garcia, who met Mrs. Dora Liza Tavarez Thursday afternoon at the Metropolitan Hospital clinic.

Mrs. Tavarez, who had gone to the clinic for post-natal care, said the woman she had just met told her that she was expecting a child and that "she loved children."

Mrs. Tavarez, 31, offered the woman a ride to her apartment in a taxi. There, the Garcia woman commented on how small the Tavarez apartment was and said she knew of a larger apartment available in the Bronx.

She offered to care for the baby while the mother went to see it.

Mrs. Tavarez discovered that the address she had been given was that of a post office.

The mother hurried home, arriving there about 4 p.m. Both the woman and her son were missing.

The woman and her neighbors searched the neighborhood for hours before reporting to police shortly after 10 p.m. After still another search, police turned in a kidnapping alarm.

Detectives were checking hospital records for a lead to the Garcia woman. Their task was complicated by the fact that the clinic listed 10 Garcia women undergoing treatment.

Mr. and Mrs. Tavarez had been in this country about two years, arriving here from the Dominican Republic.

Reds Lack The Big One

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Defence Secretary Neil H. McElroy said Thursday that Russia does not have an intercontinental ballistic missile it could fire against the United States.

Final Weapon Study Urged

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Sen. Clinton P. Anderson called Thursday for high-priority study of weather control. He called it "the ultimate weapon" which could be used to "bring the United States to her knees."

Fishboat Turns Away From Drowning Woman

WEST VANCOUVER (CP)—A woman was drowned before help could reach her in West Bay Thursday.

Dead is Mrs. Dorothy Wyndham, 66.

R. H. Ferguson said he hailed a passing fishboat after he spotted Mrs. Wyndham about 50 yards offshore, swimming and calling for help. He said the fishboat veered in toward shore, then turned and sped away.

Don't Miss

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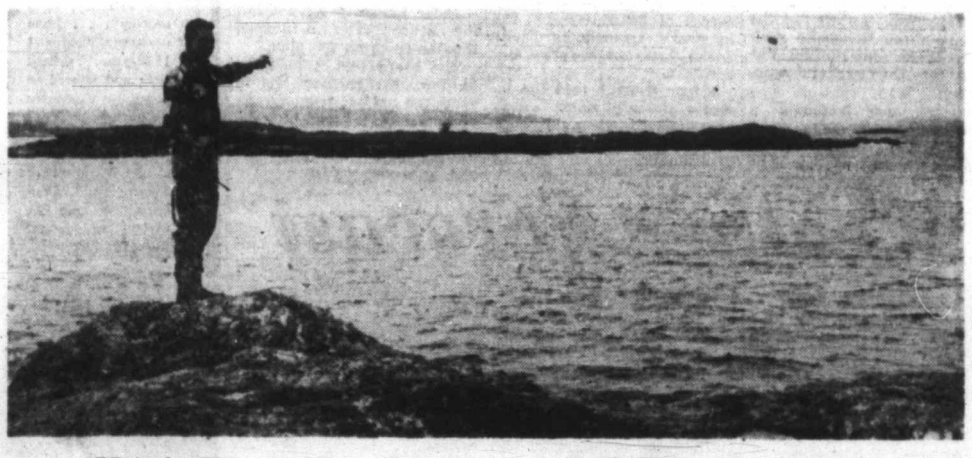

Here's Where New Breakwater Will Rise This Year

Happy news for both owners of small boats and Oak Bay came with Ottawa announcement last night that $200,000 will be spent this year on Turkey Head breakwater, to extend most of way between Oak Bay seashore and Mary Tod Island. Breakwater has long been sought as shelter for small craft using Oak Bay Boathouse. "This is a great thing for small boat owners," said Reeve George Murdoch, "and also for our seawall which gets knocked around in those southeast gales. The government has been very generous." (Colonist photo.)